

**KINE5374 – APPLIED RESEARCH METHODS IN KINESIOLOGY AND SPORT MANAGEMENT
FALL 2017**

This is a required course for the Master of Science (MS) in Kinesiology and for the MS in Sport Management

**College of Health Sciences
Department of Kinesiology**

Instructor: Liette B. Ocker, Ph.D.
Office: The Health & Kinesiology Center at SHSU
Office Hours: by email or appointment only
E-mail: lbo003@shsu.edu (The best way to get in touch)

Meeting Place / Time: Online ONLY with the potential of a lab day

Text/Readings: Thomas, J.R., Nelson, J.K., & Silverman, S.J. (2015). *Research methods in physical activity* (7thed.). Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics. **(Required)**. Note: 6th edition is also acceptable.

American Psychological Association. *Publication manual for the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). (2009). Washington, D.C.: APA. **(Recommended)**

Course Description: A study is made of research techniques, identification of problems, research designs, and data gathering procedures. An emphasis will be placed on obtaining and interpreting relevant research findings in the student's area of interest.

Standards Matrix:

| Objectives/Learning Outcomes Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to: | Activities (* indicates field-based activity) | Performance Assessment | Standards: • <u>State Standards</u> • <u>Specialty Organization Standards</u> • <u>Conceptual Framework #</u> |
|--|---|--|--|
| Develop a sound philosophy of research to apply to the objectives of exercise science, health, physical education, and sport management. | Blackboard discussion/lecture Course Projects | Examinations Protecting Human Subjects Research Assignment APA Formatting Assignment Unit Review Questions Review of Literature Statistics Assignments Survey Development Assignment | <u>N/A</u> <u>N/A</u> <u>CF1</u> |
| Acquaint with and properly select among many research methodologies. | Blackboard discussion/lecture Students will become acquainted with a variety of research methods and | Examinations Protecting Human Subjects Research Assignment | <u>N/A</u> <u>N/A</u> <u>CF1</u> |

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|--|---|---|--|
| | statistical treatments to utilize in effective research. | Statistics Assignments Review of Literature | |
| Critically evaluate the research qualities in a published research paper in order to make appropriate, informed decisions. | Class handouts/readings Students will evaluate a research article and present the information in a professional presentation. | Examinations Review of Literature | <u>N/A</u> <u>N/A</u> <u>CF1</u> |
| Utilize the various research resources that are available for construction of effective studies. | Students will utilize a variety of resources to construct an effective review of literature and survey for implementation in a research study. | Review of Literature Survey Development Assignment | <u>N/A</u> <u>N/A</u> <u>CF1</u> |
| Develop appropriate surveys to assess human factors research questions. | Students will focus on constructing effective surveys that can be used for meaningful data analysis. | Survey Development Assignment | <u>N/A</u> <u>N/A</u> <u>CF1</u> |
| Understand, be able to compute, select, and utilize appropriate statistical methods to answer research questions. | Blackboard discussion/lecture/lab activities Students will be exposed to a variety of statistical methods that can help answer pertinent research questions. | Examinations Statistics Assignments | <u>N/A</u> <u>N/A</u> <u>CF1</u> |

Web address for **state standards**: N/A

Web address for **specialty organization standards**: N/A

Web link for **Conceptual Framework**: <http://www.shsu.edu/~ncate/concept.html>

Course Format:

The content of this course is delivered in an online setting, with Blackboard serving as the primary resource. In addition, course concepts are learned through computer applications, self-study, collaborative study, and Blackboard discussions. Evaluation consists of professor assessments of examinations, projects, and research products.

In this course our focus will be on these major objectives (as assessed by the IDEA course evaluation system):

Essential:

1. Learning how to find and use resources for answering questions or solving problems.
2. Learning to *apply* course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions).

Important:

1. Learning to *analyze* and *critically evaluate* ideas, arguments, and points of view.
2. Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course.

Course Requirements:

- 1) **Professionalism/Participation.** It is expected that graduate students be active, enthusiastic, and collegial participants during the semester. In addition, it is expected that course work is completed in a timely and professional manner on the schedule posted. Points are lost if these expectations are not fulfilled.
- 2) **Assignments (fully described in the 'Evaluation' section below):**
 - A. **Three examinations will be given during the semester.** The exams will come from readings in the text, notes, handouts, assignments, and material discussed on the Discussion Boards. Specific format will be discussed prior to each exam. **(30%)**
 - B. **Discussion Boards (5%)**
 - C. **Protecting Human Research Participants Assignment (5%)**
<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/office-of-research-and-sponsored-programs/compliance/citi-training.html>
 - D. **APA Formatting Assignment (5%)**
 - E. **Unit Review Questions (15%)**
 - F. **Research Proposal Paper (15%)**
 - G. **Statistics Assignments (20%)**
 - H. **Survey Development Assignment (5%)**

Evaluation (* indicates field-based activity):

Exams: 30% of grade (10% for each exam)

- Specific format will be discussed prior to the exams.

Protecting Human Research Participants Assignment - CITI Certification: 5% of grade

- One of the key aspects of learning to do research is understanding how to protect human subjects during the research process.
- This assignment will provide you with training designed to help you consider many issues associated with human subjects research.
- Go to the SHSU Research and Sponsored Programs website by clicking [here](http://www.shsu.edu/dept/office-of-research-and-sponsored-programs/compliance/citi-training.html) and follow the instructions for "Student Researchers". <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/office-of-research-and-sponsored-programs/compliance/citi-training.html>
- Complete the online course and **save the certificate** for final assignment submission. Be sure to block off some time as the course takes approximately 2-3 hours to complete. You may complete the course over more than one day.

Discussion Boards: 5% of grade

- Each unit will have a discussion board for class participation opportunities.

APA Formatting Assignment: 5% of grade

- Students will be distributed a comprehensive list of references.
- The goal of this assignment is to properly format references in APA Format.

- You **must** follow APA format when formatting these references. Consult the **Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.)** for proper formatting.
- Organize these sources into a 'References' page similar to what you would see at the end of an article or research manuscript.

Unit Review Questions: 15% of grade

- At the end of each Unit, questions will be given as an assignment to check for understanding.
- Students are encouraged to read the assigned chapters, review handouts, follow PowerPoint presentations, and complete assignments prior to the Review Questions.
- It is not all-inclusive and therefore you will be expected to have comprehensive learning prior to taking the exams.

Research Proposal: 15% of grade

- You will write a research proposal evaluating the current literature, identifying purpose and hypotheses, detailed methods, and expected findings on a topic of their choice.
- The proposal will be more than 7 pages but less than 10 pages, double spaced with 1" (1.5" left) standard margins, and utilize a standard font.
- There must be headings and subheadings.
- You must include a minimum of 8 peer-reviewed, journal articles (magazines, websites, etc. do not count but must be referenced if information was used in the paper).
- Plagiarism will be taken very seriously; therefore, use appropriate citations.

Statistics Assignments: 25% of grade

- There will be a total of 4-5 statistics assignments that will be completed in class utilizing Statistical Programs for the Social Sciences (SPSS). SPSS can be downloaded and also will be offered in computer labs at SHSU that you have access to.
- I will load demonstration videos for the statistics assignments.
- The goal with these assignments is to provide you with background in running and interpreting statistical results.
- Each assignment will tie in with a topic (or statistical treatment) that we are covering in lecture.
- These assignments will begin toward the beginning of the semester.

Survey Development Assignment: 5% of grade

- One of the more common methods utilized in human factors research is the survey instrument.
- The goal for this assignment is to provide the student with some experience in constructing a usable survey that can be employed for data analysis.
- If possible, you should tie the survey in with your Research Proposal.
- Make this something that you would be interested in investigating.

Final Grade: (grades will not be curved)

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|------------------|---|----------|
| 100% to 89.5% | = | A |
| 89.49% to 79.5% | = | B |
| 79.49% to 69.5% | = | C |
| 69.49% and below | = | F |

Course Requirements and Expectations:

1. **Technical Requirements:** Students must have access to the Internet, Blackboard, and e-mail. Additional information about Blackboard can be found <http://distance.shsu.edu/current->

[students/](#). Although not required, it is recommended that you install the Blackboard Learn App to your phone or tablet. This app will enable you to get notifications directly to your phone or tablet when announcements are posted, and when grades are made available. It is recommended that you log in and check Blackboard daily for updates. For any technical support issues with Blackboard, call 936-294-2780 or e-mail blackboard@shsu.edu.

2. **Professional Participation:** Students will be required to interact by written communication in an on-line format using Blackboard. It is expected that all students participate in a collegial manner and create a professional environment in this on-line class. All assignments will be submitted and graded using Blackboard; make sure you stay current and up-to-date on all deadlines. Late assignments and exams are not permitted for this course.
3. **Assignments and Examinations:** There will be a variety of assignments including statistics, class discussions, and unit review questions. Examinations will be administered in Blackboard, and should be taken at the end of the unit after all assigned readings and assignments have been completed. There will be a total of 4 unit exams. Exams will be timed (approximately one minute per question).

Detailed instructions for each assignment can be found in Blackboard. Assignments must be submitted within Blackboard, and must conform to the following guidelines:

1. Submit all assignments in a .docx format unless the assignment instructions specify otherwise. File types other than .docs are often not recognized by Blackboard, and cannot be viewed by the instructor. Any assignment submitted with an inappropriate file type will be graded with a 0 (zero).
2. Before closing the assignment submission page, ensure that you attached the assignment, and that it is in the proper format. If the attachment is not there, the assignment will be graded with a 0 (zero).
3. Do not wait until the last minute to submit your assignment as there are a variety of technical issues and other errors that can and do occur. If you do not upload the assignment by the deadline, it will be considered late, and the grade will result in a deduction in points.
4. All assignments must be presented using APA 6th edition citations as appropriate for the assignment. Representing someone else's work as your own will not be tolerated, and will be considered as academic dishonesty.

Note: **Make-up exams, assignments, and discussions will NOT be allowed.**

4. **Communication and E-mail Etiquette:** Questions about the course should be asked using the virtual office on Blackboard first. This is an open forum where both the students and instructor can answer questions. If your answer is not able to be answered using the virtual office feature in Blackboard, or if the content of your question is personal in nature, please e-mail the course instructor: liette.ocker@shsu.edu. When e-mailing the course instructor, provide the following:
 - i. Include the course number in the subject line of your e-mail (please remember that the instructor may be teaching multiple courses during any given semester).
 - ii. Following the course number, provide a meaningful subject to your e-mail. This helps to clarify what your message is about or pertaining to, and can help the instructor prioritize e-mails in an appropriate order.

- iii. Address your instructor professionally such as Dr. Ocker. . . Beginning e-mail correspondence with phrases such as “Hey” is not professional, and will likely be returned to the sender.
- iv. Use standard spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. Do not write a professional e-mail in the same manner in which you would send a text message. Remember, this is professional correspondence. Avoid using all caps, abbreviations, and emoticons.
- v. Write clear paragraphs that provide context and details so that the instructor has a clear picture of the question you are asking.

When communicating on-line through the various tools in Blackboard (discussion forum, blogs, etc.), it is expected that communication is professional and academically written (no short hand, txt writing, etc.). Concerning communication via Blackboard, e-mail, or in person, everyone is expected to respect each other's' opinions and expression; however, this does not mean that everyone must agree. Being respectful, means that each individual is given the opportunity to share without judgment. All content from such discussions is expected to remain in Blackboard and our course. Sharing any content outside of our course is prohibited, and will be addressed within the academic dishonesty policy.

5. **On-line Class Behavior:** Disruptive, unprofessional, and disrespectful behavior and communication will result in the student being asked discuss the matter with the course instructor. A second violation and the student will be dropped from the class. Remember, this is a professional learning environment.
6. **Course Materials:** You are responsible for reading the materials assigned in Blackboard. This can include readings from the book and course content on Blackboard. *Make sure you keep up with the readings!*
7. **Intellectual Property:** All materials distributed by the instructor of this course including but not limited to class notes, handouts, assignments, exam reviews, quizzes, and exams are given to the student to facilitate and enhance the learning process. However, all course materials distributed to students is the property of the course instructor, a collaborative group of faculty, the textbook publisher, and/or Sam Houston State University. Therefore, any sharing, selling, or reproduction of course content will be considered a violation of intellectual property use, and could be considered academic dishonesty. Sharing course material includes but is not limited to the posting of course information on-line via YouTube, social media sites, and blogs. Course materials may only be shared, sold, or reproduced with the written permission of the faculty member teaching this course or the publisher of the textbook (whichever applies).

Recording any or part of the class presentation, discussion, or activities either in person or on-line is strictly prohibited in this class. Like course materials, presentations are the property of the presenter and should not be shared, sold, or reproduced. There will be zero tolerance for taking photos, screenshots, or video of course content, discussions, exam questions, or course materials unless it is allowed in writing by the course instructor.

8. **The SHSU Writing Center:** The writing center provides one-on-one help with your writing assignments. They are located in Farrington Room 111. It is not necessary to schedule an appointment; however, you may call 936-294-3680, twenty-four hours in advance to schedule one. Their email address is wctr@shsu.edu .

SHSU Policies (see also: <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>):

1. **Class Rules of Conduct:** Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Inappropriate behavior in the class shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.
2. **Academic Honesty:** The subject of academic honesty is addressed in paragraph 5.3, Chapter VI, of the *Rules and Regulations*, Board of Regents, The Texas State University System, and Sam Houston State University *Student Guidelines* published by the Office of Student Life to wit:

5.3 Academic Honesty. The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action.

5.31 The University and its official representatives, acting in accordance with Subsection 5.32, may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials.

"Cheating" includes the following and similar actions:

- (1) Copying from another student's test paper, laboratory report, other report, or computer files, data listings, and/or programs.
- (2) Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test.
- (3) Collaborating, without authorization, with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work.
- (4) Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of an unadministered test.
- (5) Substituting for another student, permitting any other person, or otherwise assisting any other person to substitute for oneself or for another student in the taking of an examination or test or the preparation of academic work to be submitted for academic credit.
- (6) Bribing another person to obtain an unadministered test or information about an unadministered test.
- (7) Purchasing, or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm. This section does not apply to the typing of the rough and/or final versions of an assignment by a professional typist.

5.32 "Plagiarism" means the appropriation and the unacknowledged incorporation of another's work or idea into one's own work offered for credit.

5.33 "Collusion" means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit.

5.34 "Abuse of resource materials" means the mutilation, destruction, concealment, theft or alteration of materials provided to assist students in the mastery of course materials.

5.35 "Academic work" means the preparation of an essay, dissertation, thesis, report, problem, assignment, or other project that the student submits as a course requirement or for a grade.

If you are found in violation of the academic honesty policy for this course, you will be referred to the Kinesiology Department Chair, the Dean of the College of Health Sciences, and the Dean of Student Services for disciplinary action which could include failure of the course and expulsion from the university. Bottom line – make sure all work is yours and don't cheat!

Self-Plagiarism: "Self-plagiarism represents a significant problem in academia as it serves to undermine the learning process and outcomes that are a key feature of each course that is offered as a part of a student's curriculum. As a result, the Department of Health and Kinesiology has a strict policy in place to prevent self-plagiarism in the classroom. Self-plagiarism is defined as the submission of any type of assignment that contains content that is recycled from other assignments or a prior publication that one submits for course credit in another course.

Each instructor is provided the discretion to evaluate whether a student has engaged in self-plagiarism on a course assignment. If a student is unsure whether use of prior content would constitute self-plagiarism, they must consult with the instructor of the course within a reasonable period of time prior to the due date of the assignment. In most cases, this consultation should take place a minimum of 10 business days prior to submission. Following submission of the assignment, if the instructor deems that the student has engaged in self-plagiarism, he or she has the right to state that the student has violated Section 5.3 of The Texas State University Rules and Regulations dealing with Academic Honesty and the student is thereafter subject to any and all penalties and punishments present in the policy. This may include failure of the assignment and/or failure of the course. Additionally, the student may be referred to the Department Chair of Health and Kinesiology, the Dean of the College of Health Sciences, the Dean of Students, and/or the Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs for further academic review."

3. Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy:

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

4. Students with Disabilities Policy

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified individual with disabilities shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Students with disabilities may request help with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities from their instructors, school/department chair, or by contacting the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720.

Americans with Disabilities Act

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities that may affect adversely their work in this class should register with the SHSU Counseling Center and talk with their University supervisor and classroom mentor teachers about how they can help. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until registration with the Counseling Center is complete.

Bibliography (for additional reading/reference):

Babbie, E., Halley, F., & Zaino, J. (2007). *Adventures in social research: Data analysis using SPSS 14.0 and 15.0 for Windows* (6th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press.

- Girden, E.R. (2001). *Evaluating research articles from start to finish* (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc..
- Green, S.B. &Salkind, N.J. (2008). *Using SPSS for Windows and Macintosh: Analyzing and understanding data* (5th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ : Prentice Hall. **(Highly Recommended)**
- Grimm, L.G. &Yarnold, P.R. (2000). *Reading and understanding more multivariate statistics*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Grimm, L.G. &Yarnold, P.R. (1994). *Reading and understanding multivariate statistics*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Nicol, A.A.M. &Pexman, P.M. (2003). *Displaying your findings: A practical guide for creating figures, posters, and presentations*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Nicol, A.A.M. &Pexman, P.M. (1999). *Presenting your findings: A practical guide for creating tables*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Tabachnick, B.G. &Fidell, L.S. (2001). *Using multivariate statistics* (4th ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.